POLL HAVEN

LOCAL

INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLAN

IMPLEMENTATION DOCUMENT

May 1990

Alberta

Southern Region
Regional Resource Management Committee

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prepared by

Regional Resource Management Committee
Southern Region

NOTE: This is a working document intended to facilitate inter-agency co-ordination during plan implementation. The document will be revised on a continuing basis by the Regional Resource Management Committee to reflect changing conditions.

May 1990

PREFACE

The approved Poll Haven Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) sets out the Government of Alberta's policy for the use and management of public lands and resources in an 80 km^2 (31 sq. mi.) area of the Eastern Slopes in southwestern Alberta. The Southern Regional Resource Management Committee (RRMC) is the group primarily responsible for supervising and co-ordinating implementation of this plan.

The Poll Haven Implementation Document has been prepared to facilitate the process of putting the IRP into effect. Like the IRP itself, it has been developed using a fully consultative approach, involving representatives of all agencies with interests and jurisdictions in the area. This document performs two important functions as follows:

(1) It outlines a plan for action by identifying, ranking and placing project initiatives in a work plan that have been proposed by, or are consistent with, the IRP. This clearly describes for everyone (provincial government agencies, industry, interest groups, the general public) what work is to be carried out within the planning area. Additionally, each year the RRMC will produce a plan annual report summarizing progress made in carrying out the work plan.

(2) It acts as an interpretive guide to the provisions of the plan, summarizing the permitted status of a broad range of activities. This information is primarily for provincial government employees and is intended to ensure that the processing of land use referrals and the issuance of dispositions conform strictly to the provisions of the plan.

This document is an internal government report and will be distributed at the discretion of the Southern Regional Resource Management Committee (RRMC).

Any questions about the implementation document, or about proposed activities that do not appear to be consistent with the Poll Haven IRP, should be referred to the RRMC at the following address:

Regional Co-ordination Services
Bag 3014, Sun Centre Building
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION 1

2.0 PURPOSE. 2

3.0 WORK PROGRAM 3

3.1 Priority Work Program 3
3.2 Statements of Intent 3

3.2.1 Access 3
3.2.2 Ecological Resources 3
3.2.3 Fisheries Resources 4
3.2.4 Forage Resources4
3.2.5 Historical Resources 4
3.2.6 Mineral Resources 4
3.2.7 Recreational Resources 5
3.2.8 Timber Resources 5
3.2.9 Water & Watershed Resources 6
3.2.10 Wildlife Resources 6

4.0 REFERRALS 7

5.0 PUBLIC CONSULTATION 8

6.0 PLAN MAINTENANCE 9

APPENDIX A: Poll Haven IRP: Work plan summary 10

APPENDIX B: Poll Haven IRP: Multiple Use Zone - Compatible Activities . . 12

APPENDIX C: Poll Haven IRP: Plan Amendment Procedures 13

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Poll Haven IRP was approved by the Minister of Forestry, Lands and Wildlife on May 11, 1989. The plan will be implemented by the appropriate agencies having administrative and management responsibilities for public lands and resources, in accordance with existing budgetary, manpower and program resources. Contributing private sector initiatives will also be encouraged.

2.0 PURPOSE

Alberta Forestry, Lands and Wildlife has adopted principles and procedures for implementing integrated resource plans. These require preparation of an implementation document to support continued co-ordination and integration of public land and resource management activities.

This document identifies implementation commitments and intentions by participating agencies in terms of the following:

(a) Specific programs and projects that can be determined at this time and are either identified in the plan or are required to fulfill its objectives. The document is not intended to be a complete description of established program delivery.

(b) Restrictions and guidelines on granting dispositions and other interagency referrals in the plan. Although no new information is provided, the existing material is expressed in a form convenient for day-to-day referrals.

3.0 WORK PROGRAM

The implementation document covers only initiatives consistent with the direction provided in the Poll Haven Local Integrated Resource Plan. These activities and programs must be accomplished within existing budgets and funding based on provincial priorities. Proposed project initiation dates should be viewed as targets only. Variables such as budget cutbacks, priorities for funding similar projects in other areas, or disasters (e.g., major forest fires in the area) could influence commencement of project activities.

3.1 Priority Work Program

Project descriptions have been developed by government agencies participating in the Poll Haven plan. This information is summarized in Appendix A which identifies all currently recognized project components. Projects assigned a high (#1) to moderate (#2) priority constitute the priority work program.

3.2 Statements of Intent

The following are statements of intent that address, in general terms, the implementation plans for new initiatives or project enhancements.

3.2.1 Access

Alberta Forest Service (AFS) Public Lands/ Fish & Wildlife (F&W):

- To co-ordinate development of an access management plan for motorized recreational and commercial vehicle use. The intent of the plan will be to develop a mapped system of access routes that will provide opportunities for motorized use while minimizing impacts on sensitive areas.
- In the plan, selected access routes will be identified and mapped, and limitations addressed according to the kind of vehicle, trail restrictions and seasonal use constraints.
- The plan, under the joint co-ordination of the AFS and Public Lands Divisions, will be developed collectively by all interested and affected parties including provincial government agencies, local authorities, industry and public interest groups. A general public review of all proposals will be held before any recommendations are acted upon.

3.2.2 Ecological Resources

Public Lands/AFS:

- To protect identified ecologically significant areas using both the referral process and the appropriate control of ongoing operational activities.

- To ensure that grazing management on both the community pasture and adjacent leases is conducted in a manner that will maintain significant environmental features.

3.2.3 Fisheries Resources

F&W:

- To reassess Tough and Lee creeks to determine fisheries management needs, fish stocking potential and habitat protection needs.
- To conduct surveys of priority species as necessary to assess management requirements.

F&W/AFS:

- To ensure, through enforcement and the referral process, that all ongoing and future commercial and public activities are conducted in a manner that recognizes the importance of aquatic and riparian habitat necessary for continued fish production.

3.2.4 Forage Resources

Public Lands:

- Range Management -- to manage forage resources on a sustained yield basis. Range management plans will be developed for all grazing leases in the planning area.
- Range Improvement -- to maintain or increase grazing by domestic livestock while ensuring adequate forage and habitat for wildlife are available. Various projects such as clearing brush, controlling regrowth, cross-fencing, water development, etc., will be undertaken by the lessees through Public Lands' range improvement programs. Fish & Wildlife will be consulted on all range improvement programs. AFS will be consulted regarding timber harvesting.

AFS:

- To maintain the existing forage base on Green Area lands.

3.2.5 Historical Resources

No input received.

3.2.6 Mineral Resources

Public Lands:

- To participate in the referrals system and provide operating conditions for exploration and development activities on public lands in the White Area. Reclamation activities will also be supervised.

Minerals: - Since the Poll Haven IRP does not prescribe any changes to the management of mineral resources, the Mineral Resources Division will not be involved in any implementation actions in this area.

3.2.7 Recreational Resources

Tourism: - Development/Marketing -- To support the private sector in the development of commercial trail riding operations through business counselling. Once these commercial operations have been established, Alberta Tourism will assist in marketing those attractions through the department's ongoing provincial marketing efforts. The private sector may also be involved in marketing efforts.

Public Lands: - To enhance the outdoor recreation program on public lands in the White Area. The intent is to allow suitable extensive recreation activities and to promote the Use Respect Program for recreation activities on public lands in the White Area.
- To pursue the possibility of establishing a recreation fund to enhance extensive outdoor recreation activities in the White Area.

AFS: - To provide low-density outdoor recreational opportunities oriented toward local resident use; as identified within the Poll Haven IRP and the AFS five-year operational recreation plan.

3.2.8 Timber Resources

AFS: - Forest Management

(a) Management Planning - to manage the timber resource on public land in the White and Green areas on a sustained yield basis to meet commercial and local requirements. Forest stands will be managed to maintain healthy, stable forest conditions. Forest management plans will be updated in recognition of the current mountain pine beetle program and applicable annual allowable cuts determined on conclusion of the salvage program.

(b) Reforestation - to conduct and complete regeneration requirements as outlined by provincial regulations and policy.

- Forest Protection -- to protect forests from wildfire, insects and disease, to maintain public safety and to prevent property damage. The Forest Protection Branch of the Alberta Forest Service will provide this service through ongoing divisional prevention and suppression programs, and input into resource management programs.

Public Lands:

- Identified forested areas in the White Area will be managed for timber production on a sustained yield basis consistent with the appropriate forest management plan.

3.2.9 Water and Watershed Resources

AFS/Environment:

- To ensure available water quantity and quality are maintained or enhanced through the development and implementation of a watershed management plan. Reclamation projects will be completed as they are identified.

AFS, Public Lands, F&W, Environment:

- To examine jointly the feasibility of developing small water impoundments to sustain a recreational fishery, provide a water source for forest fire suppression and domestic grazing, and increase the ability for downstream water use.

F&W, AFS, Public Lands:

- To identify water quality problems resulting from roads and stream crossings, and initiate appropriate action including road maintenance, reclamation or closure.

3.2.10 Wildlife Resources

F&W:

- To assess vegetation changes and land use practices to determine current and potential carrying capacity for wildlife.
- To conduct surveys of priority species as necessary to assess management requirements.

AFS:

- To continue to work with Fish and Wildlife through the referral process to ensure wildlife values are enhanced.

4.0 REFERRALS

The Poll Haven IRP contains a number of commitments relevant to the review of disposition applications and other referrals, and the development of conditions attached to such approvals. This direction is found in various places within the plan document, but primarily in the resource objectives and guidelines.

The plan's direction can fully be understood only in the context of the overall document. It is therefore important that users of the plan be familiar with its entire contents when seeking guidance on particular activities at specific locations.

Where the plan contains guidelines that apply specifically to the particular activity proposed, they will normally direct referral review (i.e., the decision whether to allow the activity and the attachment of conditions). Where no guidelines apply specifically (e.g., where the activity was not considered when the plan was developed), general guidance must be sought from the zone intent and broad plan direction.

The majority of referrals will be covered by plan guidelines. As an aid to the day-to-day referral process, Appendix B contains a plan-specific version of the "Table of Compatible Activities" which covers activities that are the subject of referrals. Also indicated are plan guidelines relevant to each activity. **This table should be used as a summary and cross-reference only, and always in connection with the plan itself.**

5.0 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The RRMC will ensure that appropriate public involvement opportunities are maintained throughout the process of implementing the Poll Haven IRP. Various options, such as mailings and meetings, will be considered in light of such factors as cost, logistics, the level of public interest and the level of significance of the report, review, plan or activity under consideration. Generally, specific public review opportunities will not be made available for operational activities conducted in accordance with IRP direction (e.g., Multiple Use Zone timber harvesting), but will be provided for local planning activities carried out under the auspices of the IRP (e.g., access management planning).

A summary of plan implementation activities will be communicated to interested publics by means of an annual "Highlights" information flyer. If necessary, annual information exchange sessions and other public forums for discussion of plan implementation will be arranged in conjunction with the annual review.

6.0 PLAN MAINTENANCE

The Southern RRMC will ensure effective co-ordination and monitoring of plan implementation in areas of regional responsibility.

An annual report will be prepared to identify progress in plan implementation and changes to objectives and guidelines. It will contain:

- an update on the status of carrying out the priority work program for each resource sector identified in this document;
- revisions of the work program, if necessary;
- a description of any housekeeping changes or amendments to the plan;
- A summary of ongoing administrative, management and operational activities that have taken place within the planning area; and
- recommendations for further amendments or changes to the major plan review date as appropriate.

An assessment of the need for a major review of the Poll Haven IRP will be made in 1995.

The RRMC will deal with plan amendments as they arise. Procedures are outlined in Appendix C.

APPENDIX A: WORK PLAN SUMMARY

The following table summarizes the work program described in Section 3.0.

KEY:

FLW Involvement:	L = Lead P = Participate R = Referral
Involvement/Public Involvement:	AP = Affected parties GP = General public IG = Interest groups
Priority:	1 = Highest 2 = Medium 3 = Low 4 = No established priority
Status:	F = Future O = Ongoing C = Deferred

APPENDIX A: POLL HAVEN IRP: WORK PLAN SUMMARY

SUB-PROJECT COMPONENT	WHITE/GREEN AREA	FLU INVOLVEMENT AFS	F&W	PLD	OTHER AGENCIES	INVOLVEMENT	PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT	PRIORITY	STATUS
1. Access Management Plan	white area	P	P	L	MD Cardston, Waterton Nat'l		AP IG	1	F
	green area	L	P	P	Park-Glacier Park	R	GP		
					Grazing lessees, Poll Haven Community Pasture	AP			
2. Ecological Resources	white area	R	R	L	Grazing lessees	AP	AP	3	F
	green area	L	R	R	Poll Haven Community Pasture	AP	AP	3	F
3. Fisheries Resources		P	L	P	Alberta Environment	R	N/A	2	O
Stream Surveys		R	L	R	Alberta Environment	R	N/A	3	F
4. Forage Resources									
Range Management Plans	white area	P	R	L	Alberta Environment		AP	1	O
	green area	L	R	L	Grazing lessees		AP	1	O
					Poll Haven Community Pasture		AP		
5. Historical		R	R	R	Culture & Multiculturalism	L	N/A	4	F
6. Mineral Resources		R	R	R	Energy	L	N/A	3	O
7. Recreation Resources	white area	R	R	L			AP IG	2	O
	green area	L	R	R			AP IG	2	O
Commercial Trail Riding		L	R	R	Tourism	P	AP	2	F
8. Timber Resources									
Management Plan		L	R	R	Alberta Environment	R	AP	2	O
Reforestation		L	R	R	Alberta Environment	R	AP	1	O
Forest Protection		L	R	R	Alberta Environment	R	AP	1	O
9. Water & Watershed Resources									
Op. Watershed Plan		L	R	R	Alberta Environment	P	AP	1	F
Sediment Sample		L	R	R	Alberta Environment	P	AP	1	O
Reclamation		L	R	R			AP	3	O
Water Impoundments		L	P	L	Alberta Environment	P	IG	3	F
Stream Crossing Assess.		P	L	P	Alberta Environment	R	N/A	2	F
10. Wildlife Resources									
Wildlife Surveys		R	L	R	N/A	N/A	N/A	3	F
Veg./Land Use Assess.		R	L	R	N/A	N/A	N/A	3	C

APPENDIX B
Poll Haven IRP
Multiple Use Zone - Compatible Activities

ACTIVITY / ZONE 5 MULTIPLE USE	COMPATIBILITY	REFERENCE
NON-MOTORIZED RECREATION	YES	6.8, G1, p.18
FISHING	YES	6.3, G1, p.14
HUNTING	YES	6.10, G5, p.22
SCIENTIFIC STUDY	YES	ESP
TRAPPING	YES	ESP
TRAILS, NON-MOTORIZED	YES	ESP
TRANSPORTATION & UTILITY CORRIDORS	YES	6.1, G1, p11; 6.3, G3, p.14
PRIMITIVE CAMPING	YES	ESP
INTENSIVE RECREATION	YES	6.7, G3, p.18
OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE ACTIVITY	YES	6.1, G1-4, p.11
LOGGING	YES	6.3, G5, p14; 6.8, G1-9, p.20
DOMESTIC GRAZING	YES	6.4, G1-7, p.16
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT	YES	ESP
COAL EXPLORATION	YES	ESP
COAL DEVELOPMENT	YES	ESP
MINERAL EXPLORATION & DEVELOPMENT	YES	ESP
SERVICED CAMPING	YES	6.8, G2, p.18
COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT	YES*	6.8, G1-3, p.18
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT	YES	ESP
RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISION	YES*	ESP
CULTIVATION	NO	

Compatibility: YES - A permitted or compatible use under normal operating guidelines, conditions and land use regulations.
YES* - A permitted or compatible use, but subject to special operating conditions of controls.
NO - A non-permitted use.

Reference: Identifies plan provisions that reference or support the activity; i.e., 6.8, G1, p.18 is the first guideline in section 6.8 on page 18 of the IRP.

APPENDIX C
Poll Haven IRP
Plan Amendment Procedures

The following outlines current procedures for making changes to approved IRPs. A distinction is made between housekeeping revisions, with essentially no policy content, and amendments, which have significant policy implications. A more complete description of these procedures is available in the brochure, "Guidelines for an amendment of an approved IRP".

Housekeeping Revisions

1. Housekeeping revisions are non-contentious corrections or updates, for which no public discussion or senior management endorsement is considered necessary. They may include the following typically occurring situations:

   - a correction or editorial clarification;

   - addition, deletion or modification of a guideline that defines a work program component, where a plan objective can be met more effectively in a way other than that currently prescribed.

   - minor adjustment of any plan provisions to ensure compliance with a new policy, regulation, act or Cabinet-approved policy.

2. The RRMC is responsible for making housekeeping revisions.

3. Suggestions for housekeeping revisions should be brought to the attention of the appropriate regional resource co-ordinator (RRC).

4. The RRMC will include a description of all housekeeping revisions in the annual report of the plan and in annual progress reports made available to the public.

Amendments

1. Amendments include all changes to the plan that are not considered housekeeping. They cover the modification of an objective or guideline that results in a significant change to the allowed resource uses or to the priority given to resource uses in all or part of the planning area.

2. Application to amend an approved integrated resource plan should be made to the appropriate RRC or the Resource Planning Branch (RPB).

3. The RRMC, in consultation with the RPB and affected agencies, will make a recommendation to the Deputy Minister and the Minister as to whether or not to accept the application for amendment. All applicants will be notified of the standing of their application withinin a reasonable time frame.

4. All applications accepted for amendment will be circulated to affected agencies within the government on an interdepartmental referral co-ordinated by the RPB.

5. All applications will also be subject to review by the general public. The appropriate level of public involvement, based on the significance of the proposed amendment and expected level of interest, will be determined by the RRMC in consultation with the RPB.

6. The results of the interdepartmental referral and the public involvement program will be summarized and forwarded, along with a recommendation to the Minister of Forestry, Lands and Wildlife, for a decision. Amendments that entail a major policy decision may be forwarded to the Cabinet Committee on Economic Planning for decision.